

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUDAPE 02372 200840 Z

14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

EA-11 NIC-01 ACDA-19 CU-04 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /140 W
----- 003419

R 200758 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9734

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2372

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT HU

SUBJECT: OPTIMISTIC FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT

1. SUMMARY. SUMMER MEETING OF HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT HEARD REPORT FROM DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE ON EDUCATION AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. NOTABLE POINTS IN SPEECH WERE ITS REMARKABLY POSITIVE ASSESSMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND LACK OF ANY INDICATION OF CULTURAL CRACKDOWN FOLLOWING ACTION AGAINST ANDRAS HEGEDUS AND COLLEAGUES. ORBAN ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE CANADA WOULD RECONSIDER ITS DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ICCS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON FACE OF IT THERE COULD BE NO MORE MEANINGLESS PRO-
NOUNCEMENT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAN ONE COMING FROM A
DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE. NEVERTHELESS, INTERNATIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUDAPE 02372 200840 Z

RESUME (WHICH WAS COMBINED WITH A SHORT DISCUSSION OF EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENTS) GIVEN IN PARLIAMENT JUNE 14 BY DEPUTY MINISTER LASZLO ORBAN IS INTERESTING BOTH BECAUSE OF WHAT IT OMITTS OR DOES NOT TOUCH UPON AND WHAT IT PRAISES. IN THE LATTER CATEGORY IS ALMOST GIDDY APPRAISAL OF CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SCENE REFLECTING UNDOUBTEDLY THE EUPHORIA GOH FEELS OVER NIXON- BREZHNEV MEETING. MISSING IS ANY INDICATION OF CULTURAL TIGHTENING TO GUARD AGAINST DANGERS OF DETENTE. THERE IS ALSO NOTHING IN SPEECH WHICH COULD BE CONNECTED WITH RECENT PARTY ACTION AGAINST ANDRAS HEGEDUS AND COMPANY.

3. IMPROVEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, OPINED ORBAN, PROMISES TO BE AN ENDURING TENDENCY . THIS, HE SAID, IS NOT MERELY QUESTION OF THE END OF COLD WAR ERA BUT RATHER EVIDENCE OF A NEW TYPE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES WITH DIFFERING SOCIAL SYSTEMS. ORBAN PAYS LIP SERVICE TO CLASS STRUGGLE AND POINTS OUT POSSIBILITY OF RETROGADE MOVEMENTS AND UNSETTLED PROBLEMS (INCLUDING MID- EAST). BUT GENERAL IMPRESSION IS STRIKINGLY OPTIMISTIC. TO WIT: " NEVER IN THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY HAVE THE PROSPECTS FOR AN ENDURING PEACE BEEN SO FAVORABLE AS IN OUR DAY." ORBAN ADDED HUNGARY WANTS DEVELOP ITS CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH CAPITALIST AS WELL AS SOCIALIST AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

4. NOTEWORTHY ALSO IN SPEECH IS LACK OF ANY WARNING AGAINST CORRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF DETENTE, ESPECIALLY IN CULTURAL SPHERE. THIS ALL THE MORE REMARKABLE IN VIEW RECENT EXPULSION OF EX- PREMIER ANDRAS HEGEDUS AND A GROUP OF COLLEAGUES, FROM COMMUNIST PARTY WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN PART OF GENERAL TIGHTENING IN IDEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL SPHERE. COMMUNIST PARTY HAS CERTAINLY ACTED SHARPLY AGAINST HEGEDUS GROUP, BUT WE HAVE IN FACT NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS PART OF A GENERAL CRACKDOWN. KADAR REGIME, WHICH IS NOTHING IF NOT CAUTIOUS, APPEARS MORE CONFIDENT AND OPTIMISTIC THAN EVER BEFORE.

5. GOOD DEAL OF THIS OPTIMISM SPRINGS FROM END OF VIETNAM WAR (DESPITE HUNGARY' S ICCS HEADACHES) AND CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT US- SOVIET RELATIONS EVIDENCED BY BREZHNEV VISIT TO US. LATTER NATURALLY PRAISED WARMLY BY ORBAN. HUNGARY, WHICH IMPORTS ITS FOREIGN POLICY FROM THE USSR, HAS GOTTEN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUDAPE 02372 200840 Z

GREATER LEVERAGE IN HANDLING THAT IMPORT BECAUSE OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

6. THERE IS NO WAY ORBAN COULD BE CONSIDERED AUTHORITY SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HIS REMARKS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN IN THIS VEIN. BUT THE TONE AND SPIRIT OF WHAT HE SAID WERE REMARKABLE AND HE SPOKE

IN PARLIAMENT TO A NATIONAL AUDIENCE.

7. WE NOTE FOR THE RECORD THAT ORBAN EXPRESSED HOPE
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD RECONSIDER ITS DECISION TO
LEAVE ICCS.
PUHAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUDAPE02372
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BUDAPEST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730627/aaaajlnx.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980220
Subject: OPTIMISTIC FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT
TAGS: PINT, HU
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BELGRADE
BONN
BUCHAREST
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

